

FIRST RECORD OF *CHRIONEMA CHLOROTAENIA* (PERCIFORMES, PERCOPHIDAE) FROM THE SOUTHEASTERN ATLANTIC.

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RÉSUMÉ. Nouveau signalement de *Chrionema chlorotaenia* (Perciformes, Percophidae) en Atlantique sud-ouest.

La capture d'un spécimen de *C. chlorotaenia* McKay, 1971 au large du Banc de Valdivia constitue le premier signalement de cette espèce dans l'Atlantique sud-ouest. Jusqu'à présent cette espèce était connue de l'Indo-Pacifique.

Key words. Percophidae - *Chrionema chlorotaenia* - ASE - Valdivia Bank - Distribution - New record.

The genus *Chrionema* Gilbert, 1905 comprises marine fishes from the tropical and warm temperate Indo-Pacific area. In their revision of *Chrionema*, Iwamoto and Staiger (1976) recognised four valid species. Okamura and Yamachi (1982) and Parin (1990) described two new species, to make a total of six valid species for this genus. This paper reports the first record of *C. chlorotaenia* McKay, 1971 in the Southeast Atlantic, from the Valdivia Bank.

Material and methods

One specimen of *C. chlorotaenia* was collected during the exploratory fishery survey VAL 96, carried out by a Spanish commercial bottom trawler during 1996 in SE Atlantic (Fig. 1). The specimen described was frozen on board. Measurements to the nearest mm and meristic characters were recorded later in the laboratory according to McKay (1971) and Iwamoto and Staiger (1976). Afterwards, the specimen was preserved in 70% ethanol and stored in the

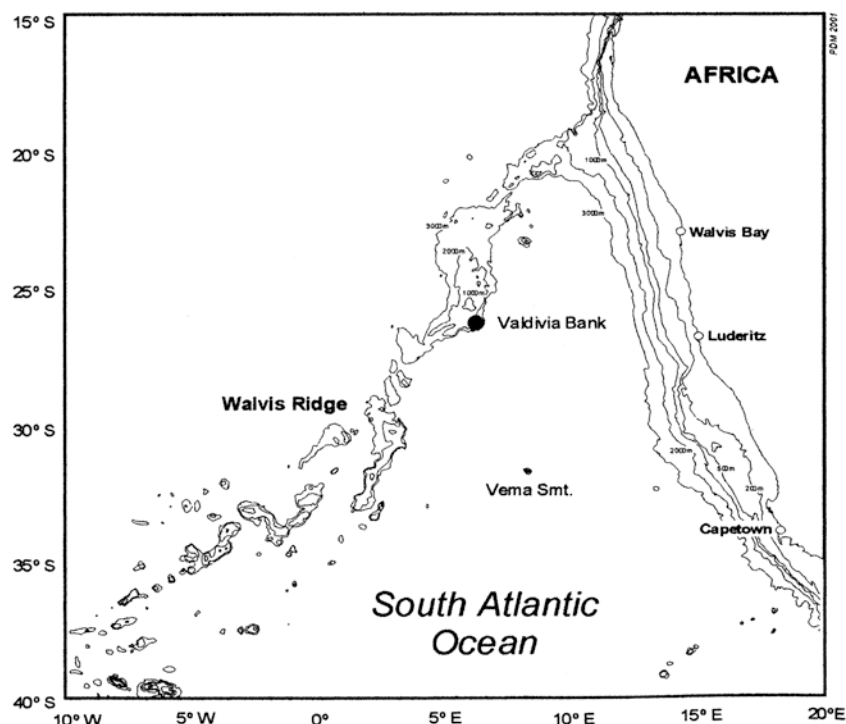


Fig. 1. Map of the Western Africa region showing the area where the *Chrionema chlorotaenia* specimen was captured.

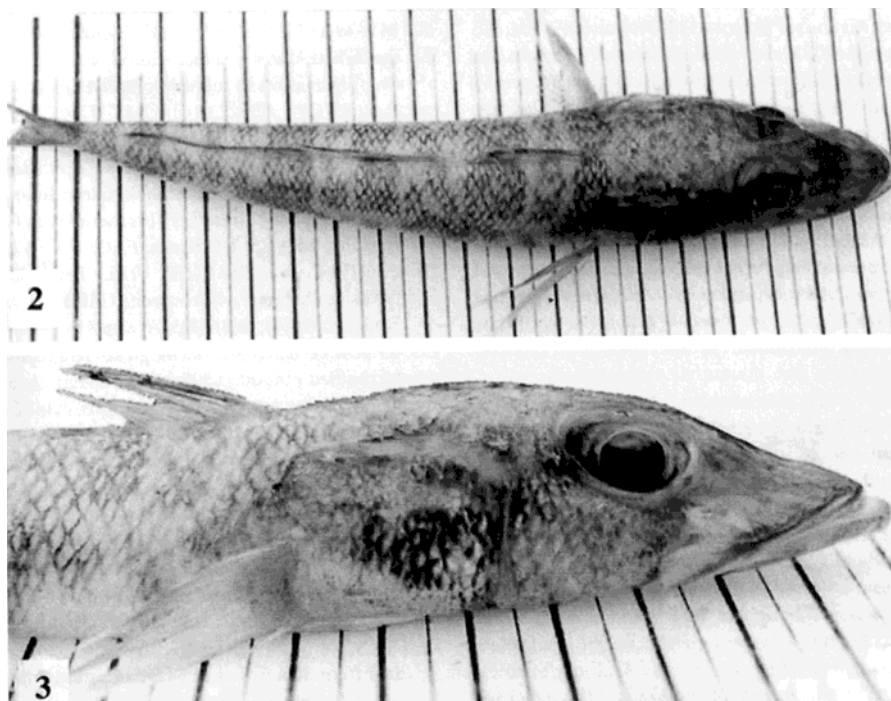


Fig. 2. *Chrionema chlorotaenia*. Dorsal view of specimen IEOV 02096, 185 mm SL, captured in Valdivia Bank on 19 August 1996.

Fig. 3. Detail of the head of the same specimen.

fish collection of the Instituto Español de Oceanografía in Vigo (IEOV).

Results and discussion

Chrionema chlorotaenia McKay, 1971

Material examined. IEOV 02096, 185 mm SL, Valdivia Bank, 26°14'S-06°14'E, 221 m depth, 19 Aug. 1996.

Description. D_1 : VI; D_2 : 16; A: 26; P: 22; V: I+5; scales in lateral line: 78; gillrakers in first arch: 5+15. The following measurements are in millimetres and the percentage with respect to standard length in brackets: Total length: 220; standard length: 185; head length 70 (37.8); preorbital snout length: 19 (10.3); postorbital length: 32 (17.2); horizontal eye diameter: 19 (10.3); interorbital length: 4 (2.1); predorsal₁ length: 69 (37.3); predorsal₂ length: 99 (53.5); dorsal₁ base length: 21 (11.3); dorsal₂ base length: 66 (35.6); preanal length: 96 (51.9); anal base

length: 82 (44.3); pectoral length: 39 (21.0); ventral length: 28 (15.1); upper jaw length: 27 (14.6); body depth: 22 (11.8) and body width: 27 (14.5).

Body elongate, subcylindrical, compressed posteriorly; head moderately depressed; scaly patch on the snout scarcely extends beyond the anterior margin of the orbit; upper jaw not extending to below middle of pupil and lacking dermal flap; lower jaw projecting; posterior margin of maxilla truncated; opercle with two spines and subopercle with one spine; teeth slender, forming bands on jaws, vomer and palatines; lateral line curve below first dorsal fin to below middle of side; body pale brownish with irregular dark cross bars and wedge-shaped blotches dorsally constituted by groups of scales with dark edges and greenish yellow centres; head pale purple with brown-edged yellow spots on postorbital part of head; snout with yellow spots below and in front of eyes; whitish below; membrane between 1st and 2nd dorsal spines blackish.

Distribution. South of Tosa Bay (Japan) and Australia (Amaoka, 1985), Taiwan (Shen and Lin, 1984), Western Indian Ocean (Heemstra and Nelson, 1984) and Valdivia Bank (present work). According to Iwamoto and Staiger (1976), the species of *Chrionema* known to them were found near steep slope areas associated with oceanic islands or similar topographic features. The subsequent records as well as the Valdivia Bank specimens confirm that all species of *Chrionema* have a similar habitat. Parin (1990) pointed out that most of the Indian specimens of *Chrionema* should be classified as *C. chlorotaenia*, which would be broadly distributed in the Indo-West Pacific region.

The presence of this Indian Ocean species in the South Atlantic could be due to frequent intrusions of warm Indian Ocean water from the Agullas retroflexion into the interior of Benguela current (Gordon *et al.*, 1992; Longhurst, 1998). The flow of the Benguela current turns north-westwards and detaches from the coast a broad stream at about 15-30°S, passing through a gap in the topography of the Walvis Ridge at 20°S and broadening as it enters the subtropical gyre (Longhurst, 1998).

The species of the genus *Chrionema* are poorly known and new records are likely to be signaled in future explorations.

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